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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1 – 7, 11 and 12 are pending in the application. Claims 1 – 6 and 11 have been rejected. Claims 7 and 12 have been objected to. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Applicant respectfully asserts that no new matter has been added.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant would like to gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 7 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Rather than rewrite claim 7 in independent form, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 by incorporating the limitations of allowable claim 7. Accordingly, claim 1 and all its dependent claims are now believed to be allowable.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 6 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Wright (US Patent No. 4,072,920). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection in view of the amendments made and the remarks that follow.

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Applicant has amended independent claim 1 by incorporating the limitations of allowable claim 7. Amended Claim 1 recites: "*a tensioning device integral to a feed and take-up device capable of moving said flexible substrate across said the support structure*".

As is well established, in order to successfully assert a *prima facie* case of anticipation, the Examiner must provide a single prior art document that includes every element and limitation of the claim or claims being rejected.

Wright does not teach and the Examiner does not suggest the Wright teaches, either expressly or inherently, all elements of amended claim 1. Wright does not disclose at least "*a tensioning device integral to a feed and take-up device capable of moving said flexible substrate across said the support structure*" as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable and requests that the rejection of this claim be withdrawn.

Claims 4, 6 and 11 are dependent, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and include all the limitations of this claim. Therefore, the patentability of claims 4, 6 and 11 follows directly from the patentability of claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully asserts that claims 4, 6 and 11 are likewise allowable and requests that the rejection of claims 4, 6 and 11 be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Wright (US Patent No. 4,072,920) in view of Hallman et al. (US Patent 5,820,932).

Wright was discussed with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) of claim 1 and the discussion is applicable here. Hallman cannot cure the deficiencies of Wright. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable. Claim 2 is dependent from claim 1 and includes all the limitations of this claim. Therefore, the patentability of claim 2 follows directly from the patentability of claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully

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asserts that claim 2 is likewise allowable and requests that the rejection of claim 2 be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable Wright (US Patent No. 4,072,920) in view of Hallman et al. (US Patent 5,820,932), as applied to claim 2 and further in view of Tajika et al. (US Patent 5,988,783).

The combination of Wright and Hallman was discussed above with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) of claim 2 and the discussion is applicable here. Tajika cannot cure the deficiencies of the combination of Wright and Hallman. Accordingly combination of Wright and Hallman 1 is believed to be allowable. Claims 3 and 5 are dependent from claim 1 and includes all the limitations of this claim. Therefore, the patentability of claims 3 and 5 follow directly from the patentability of claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully asserts that claims 3 and 5 are likewise allowable and requests that the rejection of claims 3 and 5 be withdrawn.

REMARKS TO THE ADVISORY ACTION

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner contends that the language "a convex profile in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said units" is indefinite in that it is not clear how a convex profile can be obtained in a single plane. The Examiner noted that the claimed plane was interpreted simply "as the flat plane that runs tangent to the top surface of the curve" and further requested to provide a clarification as to how a convex profile can fit a single plane if this is not the interpretation taken by the applicant.

According to Merriam-Webster online Dictionary, the term "convex" can be interpreted as "being a continuous function with the property that a line joining any two points on its graph lies on or above the graph". Furthermore, according to Merriam-Webster online Dictionary, the term "profile" can be either "a representation of something in outline" or "a side or sectional elevation".

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Accordingly, provided a cross section of a cylinder parallel to its base, an arch having a convex profile can be a part of the cylindrical surface and lie within a plane (the cross section) perpendicular to the surrounding of the cylinder”.

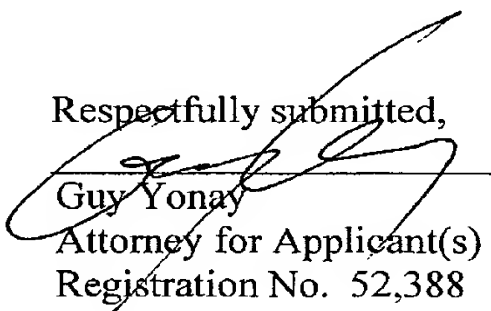
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,


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